

**Remarks**

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3, 6 and 7.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

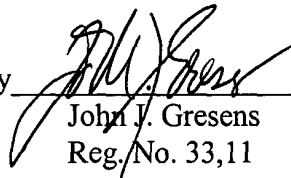
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, John J. Gresens (Reg. No. 33,112), at (612) 371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 27, 2003

By

  
John J. Gresens  
Reg. No. 33,11

JJG:nel